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FO 2542325

AUDIO VIDEO TRACKING SHEET

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT ON USE OF FORCE

INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY

INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPTS AND AUDIOS (DVD)

Involved Employees

- 1 Deputy
- 2 Deputy Michael Stephenson
- 3 Deputy
- 4 Deputy

Employee Witnesses

5 Sergeant Michael Espinosa

Suspect Interview

- 6a Angelina Ortega
- 6b Angelina Ortega

EXHIBITS

- A Copy of County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department Incident Report and supplemental reports, #021-06168-1575-174, dated October 27, 2021
- B USB drive containing Audio, Video and Photographs
- C PIH Health Hospital Whittier, ED Summary of Care Report, dated October 27, 2021, Ortega, Angelina Medical Record Number 000523367
- D Photographs of Suspect Angelina Ortega's injuries
- E Photographs of Location

MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS

In-Service for Pico Rivera Station, PM Shift, October 27, 2021

Incident Record, PRV213-0118, October 27, 2021, 1615 Hours

Booking and Property Record for Angelina Ortega, dated October 27, 2021

Consolidated Criminal History Reporting System Report for Suspect Angelina Ortega

Deputy Training Records

Deputy Michael Stephenson Training Records

Deputy Training Records

Deputy Training Records

Sergeant Michael Espinosa Training Records

Signed Administrative Rights Force/Shooting Investigation forms

Los Angeles County Sheriff's epartment Supervisor's Report on Use of Force Page Page 1 of 5

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Supervisor's Report on Use of Force INVOLVED EMPLOYEE - Continuation

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Supervisor's Report on Use of Force SUSPECT INFORMATION

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Supervisor's Report on Use of Force EMPLOYEE / NON-EMPLOYEE INFORMATION

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			Emp	loyee Witnesses					
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	dominion with the second second					L	National Invited in House	Addi	tional Witness

Method

(AW) Arwen	(FH)	Firearm (Handgun)	(PO)	Personal Weapon (Other)
(BC) Baton: (Control)	(FR)	Firearm (Rifle)	(RS)	Resistance
(BI) Baton: (Impact)	(FS)	Firearm (Shotgun)	(RO)	Restraint Device (Other)
(BF) Bodily Fluids	(FO)	Firearm (Other)	(RH)	Restraint Device (Handcuffs)
(CN) Canine	(FB)	Flashbang	(HB)	Restraint Device: Hobble (Legs Only)
(CR) Carotid Restraint	(FL)	Flashlight	(TP)	Restraint Device: Hobble (TARP)
(CH) Choke Hold	(OE)	Other Weapon: Edged	(RE)	Restraint Device: REACT Belt
(CT) Control Holds: (Control Techniques)	(OV)	Other Weapon: Vehicle	(SP)	Sap
(TT) Control Holds: (Team Takedown)	(OB)	Other Weapon: Blunt Object	(SH)	Shield
(TD) Control Holds: (Takedown)	(00)	Other Weapon: Other	(IR)	Less Lethal Impact Round (other)
(CE) Chemical	(PK)	Personal Weapon: Feet/Leg: (Kick)	(SB)	Sting Ball
(OC) Chemical Agents (OC Spray)	(PS)	Personal Weapon: Feet/Leg: (Sweep)	(ST)	Stun Bag
(TG) Chemical Agents (Tear Gas)	(PH)	Personal Weapon (Hand/Arm)	(TR)	Taser
(EX) Explosives	(PP	Personal Weapon (Push)	(UC)	Uncooperative

Type	of Injury	and the second second second	**************************************	arana sinasisanasisi		Bod	y Part Involve	≥d	manandan mandani mandanan ma		
(AB)	Abrasion	(DB)	Dog Bite	(PA)	Paralysis	(AD)	Abdomen	(FA)	Face	(HI)	Hip
(BR)	Bruise	(FR)	Fractures	(PW)	Puncture Wound	(AK)	Ankle	(FE)	Feet	(IN)	Internal
(BU)	Burn	(GS)	Gunshot	(SD)	Soft Tissue Damage	(AR)	Arm	(FI)	Fingers	(KN)	Knees
(CP)	Complaint of Pain	(HB)	Human Bite	(ST)	Sprain/Twists	(BK)	Back	(GE)	Genitals	(LE)	Leg
(CO)	Concussion	(LC)	Lacerations	(UN)	Unconscious	(BT)	Buttocks	(GR)	Groin	(NK)	Neck
(DH)	Death	(ND)	Nerve Damage	(RM)	Refused Med Treatment	(CH)	Chest	(HD)	Hands	(NO)	Nose
(DI)	Dislocation	(OD)	Organ Damage	(NN)	NONE	(EL)	Elbow	(HE)	Head	(SH)	Shoulder
						1				(WR)	Wrist

(HR) High Risk

FORCE USED BY		FORCE USED AGAINST		Type of	Body	
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Stephenson	E2		S1	NN	LE	CT
Stephenson	E2		S1	OC	NN	CT
Stephenson	E2		S1	PH	FR	FA
	E3		S1	CH	NN	LE
	E3		S1	HB	NN	LE
	E4		S1	RH	NN	WR
	S1		E1	UC	NN	
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	S1		E4	UC	NN	
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4.						

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY

INCIDENT:

Category 3 Use of Force / Broken Left Orbital

IAB FILE NUMBER:

FO 2542325

URN#:

021-06168-1575-174

DIVISION / UNIT:

South Patrol Division / Pico Rivera Station

DATE / TIME:

Wednesday, October 27, 2021 / 1715 hours

LOCATION:

Townley Drive, Whittier

SYNOPSIS

On Thursday, October 28, 2021, an Internal Affairs Bureau (IAB) Force/Shooting Response Team, comprised of Lieutenant Richard Cartmill, Sergeant Adrian Guillen. and Sergeant Dennis Pogodayev, responded to Pico Rivera Station (PRV) regarding a Category 3 use of force incident documented by Pico Rivera Station personnel, URN 021-06168-1575-174 [Exhibit A]. During this incident, applied control holds and handcuffed Suspect Angelina Ortega's (Suspect Ortega) hands. Deputy Michael Stephenson (Deputy Stephenson) used Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) spray, applied control holds and struck Suspect Ortega on the left side of her face, with his right fist, which resulted in a fractured orbital on Suspect Ortega's left eve. Deputy (Deputy used control holds and applied the RIPP hobble to Suspect Ortega's ankles. Deputy (Deputy applied control holds and assisted in handcuffing Suspect Ortega. Sergeant Michael Espinosa (Sergeant Espinosa) was present and directed the use of force. The use of force was recorded on deputies' body-worn cameras (BWC) [Exhibit B, Body-Worn Cameras].

IAB Note:

OC, or Oleoresin Capsicum, spray is a liquid agent which causes temporary discomfort and burning to the eyes and

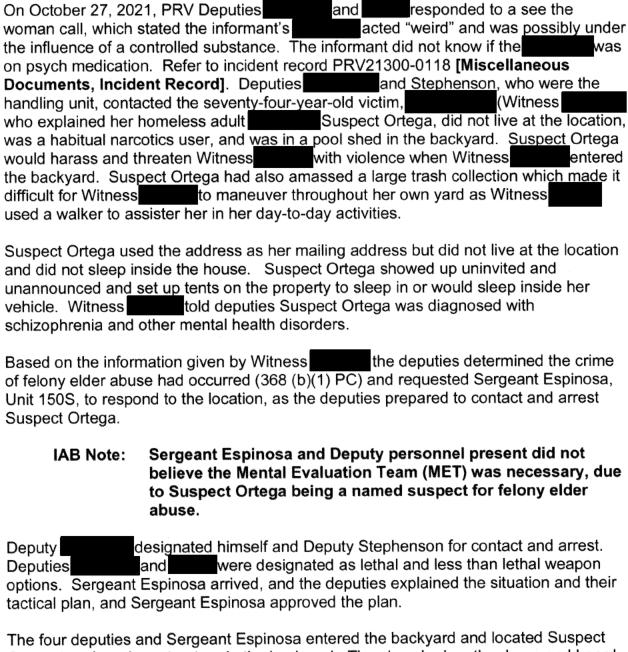
lungs, due to its inflammatory effects

IAB Note:

The RIPP hobble is made of one-inch-wide polypropylene webbed belting looped through a one-inch-wide alligator-jawed, friction-locking clip and steel-snap swivel, which can be

used to restrain appendages such as legs, to prevent a suspect from kicking personnel.

<u>SUMMARY</u>



The four deputies and Sergeant Espinosa entered the backyard and located Suspect Ortega in a four-door structure in the backyard. They knocked on the doors and heard Suspect Ortega shout at them from the second door from the north. The door was approximately three feet away from the filled swimming pool. The deputies repeatedly ordered Suspect Ortega to exit from behind the closed door, but she refused. Deputy

Stephenson attempted to turn the doorknob, which did not turn, and believed the door was locked.

IAB Note: The four doors of the structure faced the pool and led to a narrow individual shower and changing rooms.

The deputies spent several minutes of unsuccessful attempts to ruse Suspect Ortega out of the structure. Deputy Stephenson attempted to open the door again and utilized a piece of metal to manipulate the locking mechanism and realized the door was not locked; Suspect Ortega held the doorknob from inside and prevented the doorknob from turning.

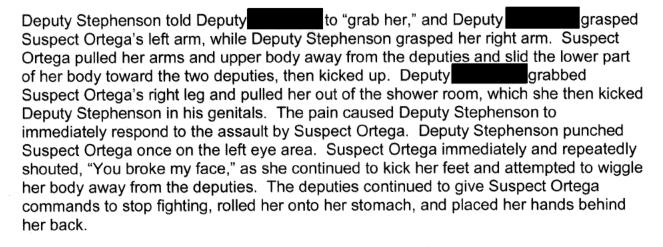
IAB Note: A ruse is an action intended to deceive or trick another person.

Deputy Stephenson opened the door and saw Suspect Ortega sitting on a pile of clothing and trash. The room was filled with about one foot of clutter. Suspect Ortega continued to refuse deputies' commands and shouted profanities at them. Suspect Ortega said, "Don't fucking touch me;" and, "Get off my fucking property." Suspect Ortega hid her hands in the clutter, which caused Deputy Stephenson to believe she was retrieving a weapon. Deputy Stephenson drew his firearm and aimed it at Suspect Ortega. Deputy Stephenson realized Suspect Ortega had retrieved her cell phone, at which point he re-holstered his firearm.

IAB Note: During his IAB interview, Deputy Stephenson was unsure if he had unlocked the door using the piece of metal or if Suspect Ortega had let go of her grip on the doorknob.

As Suspect Ortega continued to disobey deputies' repeated commands, Sergeant Espinosa directed Deputy to grasped Suspect Ortega's right arm, while Deputy Stephenson attempted to grasp her left arm. Suspect Ortega pulled her arms away, as she repeatedly shouted, "Get off my wrist." Deputy Stephenson pulled out his OC spray and warned Suspect Ortega he would spray her if she did not comply, which was repeated by Sergeant Espinosa. Suspect Ortega replied, "No you won't," and continued to disobey their commands. Sergeant Espinosa ordered Deputy to back away from Suspect Ortega, then ordered Deputy Stephenson to spray Suspect Ortega with OC spray.

Deputy delivered an approximately two second burst of OC spray toward Suspect Ortega's face. Suspect Ortega turned her head, which caused the OC spray to miss her eyes and did not have the desired effect. Sergeant Espinosa ordered Deputy Stephenson to "spray her again," at which point Deputy Stephenson delivered a second one to two second burst of OC spray. The second burst of OC spray landed in Suspect Ortega's eyes and appeared to cause the desired discomfort; however Suspect Ortega still refused to follow commands.



Deputy controlled Suspect Ortega's right arm, while Deputies Stephenson and controlled her left arm, as they rolled Suspect Ortega onto her stomach. The deputies were able to apply the handcuffs on Suspect Ortega's wrist, despite her resistance. At the same time, Sergeant Espinosa felt his shoelaces had been caught in Suspect Ortega's right boot, which caused him concern about losing his balance. Deputy had to manipulate Sergeant Espinosa's shoelace free, then applied the RIPP hobble to Suspect Ortega's crossed feet. Once the handcuffs and RIPP hobble were applied, Suspect Ortega stopped her physical resistance and followed the deputies' commands.

IAB Note: Sergeant Espinosa was heard on BWC, at 17:09:46, complain of pain to his ankle, as his shoelace was caught [Exhibit B, Body-Worn Camera].

The deputies sat the suspect up and searched Suspect Ortega while she was in a seated position. During their search they recovered a folding knife concealed on Suspect Ortega's person. The deputies carried Suspect Ortega, who was no longer resistive, several feet away from the pool and adjusted the RIPP hobble above her knees. Suspect Ortega allowed the deputies to apply a second RIPP hobble to her uncrossed feet. The application and placement of the two RIPP hobbles allowed Suspect Ortega to walk in a shuffled manner.

IAB Note: Deputy conducted the search of Suspect Ortega in front of the shower room. The BWC showed him recover a knife from Suspect Ortega's right side, but it is not clear if he recovered it from her pants or sweater. Deputy did not remember recovering the knife during his IAB interview.

Deputy conducted a search of Suspect Ortega in the front yard at a patrol vehicle. Suspect Ortega was treated on scene by Los Angeles County Fire Department Engine #40 personnel, under the command of Captain Sotelo. Suspect Ortega was

transported via ambulance to PIH Health Hospital – Whittier, where she was treated by Dr. Alisa Sato and diagnosed with a fracture to her left orbital.

IAB Note: Deputy who is a male deputy, searched Suspect

Ortega on scene, as there were no female deputies available to

conduct the search.

INVOLVED PERSONNEL/WORK HISTORY

Deputy Sheriff
South Patrol Division/Pico Rivera Station
(Loan from Transportation Services Bureau for training)

Date of Employment:

Date assigned to Pico Rivera: Completed Patrol Training:

Prior Category 3 Use of Force:

06/20/2019

Equipment Worn on Person

Smith & Wesson M&P 9mm

Smith & Wesson Revolver .38 (Backup)

Magazines (2)

Taser

Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) Spray

Handcuffs (2)

Tourniquet

Baton

Portable Radio

Narcan

Multitool

Stephenson, Michael,

Deputy Sheriff

South Patrol Division/Pico Rivera Station

Date of Employment:

Date assigned to Pico Rivera:

Completed Patrol Training:

Prior Category 3 Use of Force:

11/07/2008 06/05/2016

Equipment Worn on Person

Baretta 92G 9mm

Smith & Wesson Revolver .38 (Backup)

Magazines (2)

Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) Spray

Handcuffs (2)

Tourniquet

Baton

Hobble

Portable Radio



Deputy Sheriff

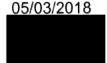
South Patrol Division/Pico Rivera Station

Date of Employment:

Date assigned to Pico Rivera:

Completed Patrol Training:

Prior Category 3 Use of Force:



Equipment Worn on Person

Smith & Wesson M&P 9mm

Magazines (2)

Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) Spray

Handcuffs (2)

Taser

Tourniquet

Baton

Hobble

Portable Radio



Deputy Sheriff

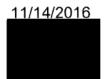
South Patrol Division/Pico Rivera Station

Date of Employment:

Date assigned to Pico Rivera:

Completed Patrol Training:

Prior Category 3 Use of Force:



Equipment Worn on Person

Smith & Wesson M&P 9mm

Smith & Wesson Revolver .38 (Backup)

Magazines (3)

Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) Spray

Handcuffs (2)

Tourniquet

Baton

Taser

Hobble Portable Radio

SUSPECT INFORMATION

Angelina Ortega Female/Hispanic/52, DOB 08/02/70, 5'02"/155 CII # MAIN# FBI #
A check of the Consolidated Criminal History Reporting System/Criminal Information
Index (CCHRS/CII) revealed Suspect Ortega For further, refer to Suspect Ortega's CCHRS/CII, and Record of Arrest and Prosecution Sheet (RAPS) [Miscellaneous Documents].
<u>INJURIES</u>
Suspect Angelina Ortega Suspect Ortega was diagnosed with a depressed fracture of the floor of the left orbital. Doctor Sato believed the injuries were consistent with the force used. A Urine Drug Screen reflected Suspect Ortega tested positive for amphetamine/methamphetamine and cannabinoid [EXHIBIT C, PIH Health ED Summary of Care].
Department Personnel
Due to this incident, Sergeant Espinosa experience pain to his lower back and right ankle and was taken out of work, Injured on Duty (IOD) by his doctor as of October 29, 2021. At the time of this report, he had not returned to work.
PHYSICAL EVIDENCE
None.
INVESTIGATORS' OBSERVATIONS
None.
WEAPONS USED BY DEPUTY PERSONNEL
None.
WEAPONS USED BY SUSPECT
None.

PROPERTY DAMAGE

None.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION CHARGES

Investigator's Name:

Pico Rivera Station, Detective Ricardo Villegas,

Arraignment Court:

Downey Court

Trial Court:

Norwalk Superior Court

Court Case:

1DN03965

Charges:

243(b) P.C.

Detective Villegas submitted the criminal complaint to Downey Superior Court District Attorney's Office. Her arraignment date is scheduled for August 18, 2022 [Miscellaneous Documents].

LIGHTING AND WEATHER CONDITIONS

This incident took place outside during daylight hours. According to weather website wunerground.com, the temperature was approximately 79 degrees and twilight was at 1930 hours. The weather condition was described as fair.

RADIO TRANSMISSION

Internal Affairs Bureau Investigators reviewed Sheriff's Communication Center's (SCC) radio traffic associated with the incident. The following is a summary of Dispatch 13, and L-TAC radio traffic. For exact times, units, and verbiage, refer to **[Exhibit B, Audio]**. The times used to signify the events is the elapsed interval on the recording, not the time the incident occurred

DISPATCH_13_1027221_1615-1800_hrs

00:15 SCC voiced call.

10:14 Unit 151A arrived on scene.

27:12 Unit 152 requested 150S to L-tac radio frequency.

54:59 Unit 150S requested fire department.

56:14 SCC confirmed fire department requested.

L-tac-10_102721_1615-1800

00:10 Unit 152 coordinated call.

09:18	Furthe	er coordination, as units arrived on scene.
25:56	Unit 1	50S requested to location.
56:20	Reque	ested 152D (two-man unit) and female deputy to respond to scene.
56:58	PRV o	dispatch advised there were no female deputies on in-service.
1:00:30	PRV o	dispatch requested any unit on scene to call PRV dispatch on one.
BODY-W	ORN CAN	IERA FOOTAGE
	rn Camei	reated and reviewed a synced 4-panel body-worn video [Exhibit B, ra, 4-Panel Body-Worn Video], which consisted of Deputies son, and Sergeant Espinosa's body-worn camera footage.
Deputy St Sergeant Deputy	ephensor Espinosa	an recording at 16:59:32 hours. The top left panel was worn by and labeled The Top right panel was worn by and is the source of the audio. The bottom left panel was worn by nd labeled The bottom right panel was worn by Deputy
IAE	B NOTE:	There was a one-minute buffer period, where the body-worn camera backed up one minute prior to activation. Audio recording began when the camera was intentionally activated to record.
16:	:59:33	Briefing between Deputy personnel and Sergeant Espinosa.
17:	:02:20	Deputies conducted a door knock, identified themselves and attempted to open door.
17:	:08:24	Deputy Stephenson opened door.
17:	:08:30	Deputy Stephenson drew firearm then re-holstered.

17:08:35

17:08:54

Deputy

Suspect Ortega. Deputy Stephenson complied.

grasped Suspect Ortega's right arm.

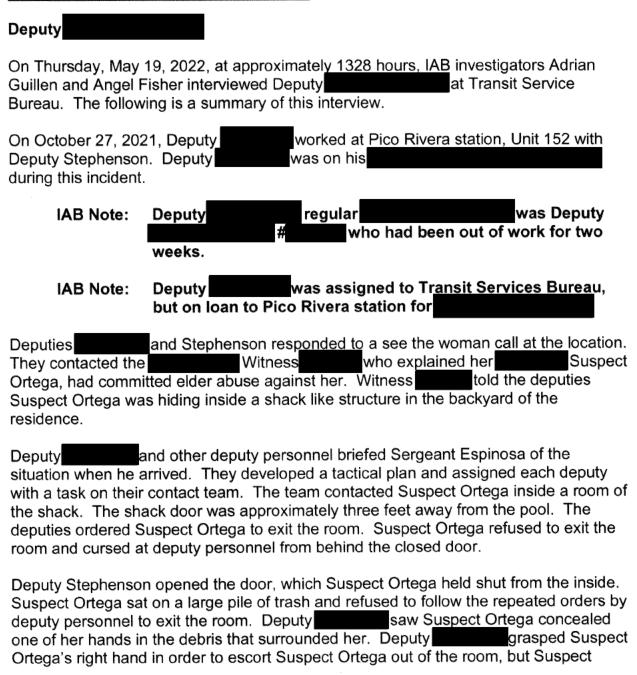
Sergeant Espinosa ordered Deputy Stephenson to OC spray

17:09:00	Sergeant Espinosa ordered Deputy Stephenson to OC spray Suspect Ortega a second time. Deputy Stephenson complied.
17:09:09	Sergeant Espinosa ordered Deputies and Stephenson to "grab her and pull her out."
17:09:13	Suspect Ortega kicked Deputy Stephenson in the groin.
17:09:15	Deputy Stephenson punched Suspect Ortega once in face. The four deputies attempted to gain control of Suspect Ortega.
17:09:18	Deputy BWC stopped recording.
17:09:57	Suspect Ortega is handcuffed as RIPP hobble is applied.
17:10:17	A knife is recovered on Suspect Ortega's person as she is searched.
17:11:15	Sergeant Espinosa requested the fire department to respond via his handheld radio.
17:11:40	Second RIPP hobble was applied, and first RIPP hobble was adjusted to allow Suspect Ortega to shuffle walk.
17:12:07	Suspect Ortega was escorted to a patrol vehicle in front yard.
17:14:28	Deputies searched Suspect Ortega.
17:15:16	Deputies remove Suspect Ortega's boots and pant layers.
17:17:17	Deputy Stephenson advised Sergeant Espinosa; SCC advised there were no female deputies available.
17:18:52	Deputy Stephenson's BWC stopped recording.
17:20:08	Fire department arrived.
17:30:20	Suspect Ortega is escorted and placed inside ambulance.

STATEMENTS

Internal Affairs Bureau investigators interviewed the below listed personnel and witnesses. The following is a summary of their interviews. For more information and precise wording, see digitally attached verbatim interview transcripts.

INVOLVED EMPLOYEES' STATEMENTS



Ortega flailed her arm in order to free it from Deputy grasp, and Sergeant Espinosa directed Deputy to release Suspect Ortega's arm. Sergeant Espinosa gave Suspect Ortega multiple warnings she would be OC sprayed if she did not comply with their orders. Suspect Ortega continued to ignore the deputies'
Sergeant Espinosa gave Suspect Ortega multiple warnings she would be OC sprayed if
orders and Sergeant Espinosa ordered Deputy Stephenson to spray Suspect Ortega with the OC spray. Deputy Stephenson sprayed Suspect Ortega; however, the spray did not appear to have an effect on Suspect Ortega.
Sergeant Espinosa ordered Deputy Stephenson to spray Suspect Ortega a second time, which he did. As the OC spray effected Suspect Ortega, Deputy grasped Suspect Ortega's right pant leg with his right hand and attempted to gain control of her right arm with his left hand, but Suspect Ortega flailed her arms and tried to tuck her arms away from him. At the same time, Deputy Stephenson tried to control the left side of Suspect Ortega's body and the two deputies simultaneously pulled Suspect Ortega out of the shed. Suspect Ortega continued to pull her arms away from the deputies, at which point, Deputy Stephenson struck Suspect Ortega once in the face. Due to this strike, Suspect Ortega immediately turned face down, and pulled her hands away from the deputies as they attempted to handcuff her. Suspect Ortega stopped her physical resistance once the handcuffs were applied.
IAB Note: Deputy did not see Suspect Ortega kick Deputy Stephenson, which he learned occurred after the incident.
After the use of force, Deputy recognized his BWC had turned off during the incident, as he recalled turning his BWC on prior to making an approach into the backyard. Deputy was unsure when or how the BWC turned off. Deputy
immediately reported his use of force to Sergeant Espinosa and advised him his BWC had turned off during the incident.
immediately reported his use of force to Sergeant Espinosa and advised him
immediately reported his use of force to Sergeant Espinosa and advised him his BWC had turned off during the incident.

Deputy Stephenson requested for additional personnel and a sergeant, via his handheld
radio, to contact Suspect Ortega and to arrest her for elder abuse. When Sergeant
Espinosa and the additional personnel arrived, Deputies and Deputies
Stephenson and briefed them on the circumstances and their intention to
arrest Suspect Ortega. A tactical plan was devised, and Deputy Stephenson tasked
each deputy with their assignment in the contact team. The approach toward Suspect
Ortega was also discussed and implemented, due to the small surface area between
the swimming pool and the pool house, which was approximately 36 inches wide.

As they approached the pool house, the deputies heard Suspect Ortega yelling behind the second door from the north side of the building. The deputies knocked on the door and Suspect Ortega told them to leave her alone. The deputies each took turns attempting to ruse Suspect Ortega out of the building.

Deputy Stephenson tried to open the door and believed it was locked. Deputy Stephenson found a coat hanger and attempted to unlock the door. Deputy Stephenson pushed the straightened coat hanger through the hole in the center of the doorknob. Deputy Stephenson realized the door was not locked as he turned the doorknob and overcame the grip of Suspect Ortega, who held the knob and prevented it from turning.

The door opened and revealed Suspect Ortega, who sat facing the deputies. "Her knees are bent and she's dirty, disheveled and screaming," obscenities at the deputies [Stephenson Transcripts, page 10]. Suspect Ortega reach into a cubby or crevice in either the wall or the debris around her, which caused Deputy Stephenson to believe she was retrieving a weapon. Deputy Stephenson drew his firearm and ordered her to show her hands. Suspect Ortega told him she was grabbing her cellphone and slowly moved her hand to reveal a cellphone. When he saw the cellphone, Deputy Stephenson re-holstered his firearm and retrieved his OC spray from his gun belt.

After several orders for Suspect Ortega to stand up and exit the pool house, Deputy grasped her right arm and attempted to pull Suspect Ortega up and out of the confined area. Suspect Ortega pulled her arm back and away from Deputy In response to her resistance, Sergeant Espinosa ordered Deputy Stephenson to spray Suspect Ortega with OC spray. Deputy Stephenson applied a 2-3 second burst to Suspect Ortega's face. Suspect Ortega turned her head, which caused the OC spray to land on the side of her head and did not enter her eyes. Sergeant Espinosa ordered Deputy Stephenson to spray Suspect Ortega a second burst of OC spray. Deputy Stephenson applied a second burst of OC spray. This time, the OC spray entered Suspect Ortega's eyes.

As the OC took its effect, Deputy Stephenson grasped Suspect Ortega's right wrist with his left hand. Suspect Ortega kicked her feet toward the deputies, as she pulled her arms back and away from the deputies. Suspect Ortega scooted her buttocks and hips toward the deputies and kicked Deputy Stephenson in his genitals. Deputy Stephenson

felt immediate pain which caused him to bend over. Deputy Stephenson felt the situation had escalated and would continue to escalate if he did not act quickly. Deputy Stephenson immediately punched Suspect Ortega once in the face with his right hand. The single punch caused Suspect Ortega to turn her face and rolled onto her stomach. Deputy Stephenson controlled Suspect Ortega's left hand and gave her commands to stop fighting. Deputy Stephenson saw a deputy had handcuffed Suspect Ortega but was unsure who. Once Suspect Ortega was handcuffed, Deputy Stephenson disengaged and backed away from the situation, due to the pain in his genitals. Deputy Stephenson recalled he saw a folded pocketknife on Suspect Ortega after she was handcuffed which was removed during an initial search of Suspect Ortega. At some point Suspect Ortega was hobbled, stood up then escorted out of the backyard.

Deputy Stephenson immediately reported the force he used and saw to Sergeant Espinosa.

On Wednesday, May 25, 2022, at approximately 0728 hours, IAB investigators Sergeant Adrian Guillen and Bernard Ojeda interviewed Deputy at a temporary desert command post (Narcotics Bureau operation) in the city of Llano. The following is a summary of his interview. On October 27, 2021, Deputy responded to the location regarding a family disturbance. When he arrived, Deputy Stephenson explained Suspect Ortega was going to be arrested regarding a restraining order violation. Deputy Stephenson formulated a tactical plan and gave each deputy an assignment. Deputy Stephenson told personnel, according to Witness Suspect Ortega was in a shower shed in the backyard.

IAB Note: Suspect Ortega was not in violation of a restraining order; however, a restraining order violation was discussed on BWC, as Witness told the deputies she had a restraining order against Suspect Ortega's who was not at the location. Suspect Ortega was to be arrested for felony elder abuse.

Deputy personnel made their way around the clutter filled backyard, and around the swimming pool, and located Suspect Ortega in a small room of a shed. Deputy Stephenson knocked on the door and ordered Suspect Ortega to exit the room; Suspect Ortega refused to open the door or exit. The deputies tried to open the door, but believed the door was locked. Due to Suspect Ortega being very uncooperative, the deputies took turns as they tried to verbally persuade her out of the shed.

One of the deputies, Deputy was unsure who, realized the door was not locked and opened the door. Deputy saw Suspect Ortega sitting in a small

shower space surrounded by clothes, buckets, and other junk items. Suspect Ortega cursed at the deputies and refused to exit. Due to Suspect Ortega's verbal aggressiveness, Deputy pulled out his Taser and pointed it at her for approximately 10-15 seconds. Deputy re-assessed her level of resistance, realized the danger of using the Taser near the swimming pool and re-holstered the Taser.
Deputy attempted to help Suspect Ortega stand up, but she kicked at him. Sergeant Espinosa ordered the deputies to back up and told Suspect Ortega if she did not stand up and exit, OC spray would be utilized on her. Suspect Ortega still refused to exit, so Sergeant Espinosa ordered Deputy Stephenson to spray her with OC spray. Sergeant Espinosa saw the OC spray did not affect Suspect Ortega and ordered Deputy Stephenson to spray Suspect Ortega again. After she was sprayed, Suspect Ortega reached around, which caused Deputy to believe she was searching for a weapon. Sergeant Espinosa ordered either Deputies or Stephenson to pull Suspect Ortega out of the room. Suspect Ortega kicked at the two deputies and tucked her hands under herself.
Deputy saw Suspect Ortega kick Deputy Stephenson in the groin, which caused Deputy Stephenson to move backward, toward the swimming pool. Deputy pushed Deputy Stephenson forward, to prevent Deputy Stephenson from falling into the pool. Deputy Stephenson punched Suspect Ortega once in the face, as he fell forward on top of Suspect Ortega. Deputy saw Suspect Ortega kicking her legs, so he placed his body on Suspect Ortega's legs, which kept her legs together and prevented her mobility.
Deputy saw Sergeant Espinosa's shoelace had become tangled with the shoelace hooks on Suspect Ortega's boots. Deputy untangled Sergeant Espinosa's shoelace, then crossed Suspect Ortega's ankles and applied the RIPP hobble. Seconds after the RIPP hobble was applied, Suspect Ortega stopped resisting. Due to Deputy position on the legs, he was unable to see what force was used by other personnel.
Due to Suspect Ortega's inability and/or refusal to walk, and the small area between the swimming pool and the shower shed, the deputies picked up Suspect Ortega and set her down in an area with more room to adjust the RIPP hobble. The RIPP hobble was adjusted which allowed Suspect Ortega to walk using shuffle steps.
Deputy immediately reported the force he used and saw to Sergeant Espinosa.
Deputy
On Thursday, June 2, 2022, at approximately 1311 hours, IAB investigators Sergeant Adrian Guillen and Bernard Ojeda interviewed Deputy

fro by	e application of handcuffs occur om Deputy Stephenson's BWC a Suspect Ortega as she appeare om Deputy	ppeared to depict resistance
applied the other hande Ortega was physically i	*	Suspect Ortega's arms, while ties and did not believe Suspect stated
Stephenson's groin but and grabbed	stood, he saw Suspect Ortega could not tell if her foot made cont a hold of Suspect Ortega, he was ced her on her stomach.	tact. Deputies Stephenson
heavily cluttered room. control of Suspect Orte Sergeant Espinosa dire noticed Deputy Stepher see Deputy Stephenson Deputy	Deputy reached into the reached Deputy reached into the reached Deputy Stephenson to employ the OC spray; his view we believed the OC spray had little to nosa ordered Deputy Stephenson	e room and tried to gain bulled her arm away from him. by OC spray. Deputy from his gun belt but did not ras partially blocked by Deputy to no effect on Suspect Ortega
backyard had clutter, w approximately four feet and saw there was no v returned to the front of t verbal contact with Sus trying to pursue Suspec	eant located Suspect Ortega in a shich made it difficult to walk and a from the shed. Deputy walk windows or doors Suspect Ortega of the shed, where Deputies pect Ortega through a closed door of the door for appropriated the door was unlocked and of the door was unlocked and o	swimming pool was ked to the back of the shed could escape through. He and Stephenson had made Deputy described oximately 10 minutes, before
The handling unit conta Ortega. Deputy backyard. Based on what to the location to arrest	e responded to the location regard cted Witness who said she believed Suspect Ortega lived in the nat the handling unit knew, they reconstructed ortega for felony elder about and gave each deputy an assign	e was abused by Suspect ne shed of Witness quested a sergeant to respond ouse. The handling unit
•	Phalle & Silver. The following is a s	

Deputy recalled they carried Suspect Ortega away from the shed, as she was hobbled, then placed her down several feet away. Deputy moved the RIPP hobble to her knees, which allowed Suspect Ortega to walk on her own, as they escorted her to the front yard. Deputy did not recall the application of the second RIPP hobble.			
Deputy immedia Espinosa.	ately reported the force he used and witnessed to Sergeant		
WITNESS EMPLOYE	ES' STATEMENTS		
Sergeant Espinosa			
interviewed Sergeant out of work, Injured-O	2022, at approximately 1001 hours, IAB Sergeant Adrian Guillen Michael Espinosa over the telephone, as Sergeant Espinosa was n-Duty (IOD) and in another state during the time of this interview.		
requested over the LT Deputies ar Deputies ar driveway area. The d	Sergeant Espinosa worked Unit 150S on PM shift. He was TAC radio frequency or via cell phone, he did not recall, by and Stephenson, to respond to their location. When he arrived, and Stephenson met him in the front of the residence, in the leputies explained they wanted to affect the arrest of Suspect e, who was at the residence.		
re fr ti	on Dispatch 13, the main radio frequency, Deputy equested 150S to the LTAC frequency. On the LTAC radio requency, Deputy requested 150S to respond to heir location. 150S, Sergeant Espinosa, said he would espond from the station.		
	TAC is separate radio frequency which allowed deputy ersonnel to communicate directly with one another.		
was desirous of prose deputy personnel pre- backyard, behind one	riefly spoke with the victim, Witness who confirmed she ecution and a crime had been committed. Sergeath Espinosa and sent located Suspect Ortega in a four-door structure in the of four doors that faced the swimming pool. Sergeant Espinosa he was in as the size of a closet filled with trash, approximately one		

Prior to making their approach, the handling unit, Deputy devised a tactical plan and gave each deputy their designated duty. They also discussed the hazard of the clutter and swimming pool and what to do should the suspect shoot at them. Due to this being a criminal investigation, Sergeant Espinosa did not believe the MET team was necessary. Deputies contacted Suspect Ortega, who refused to open the door. After several minutes of trying to ruse Suspect Ortega out of the room, Deputy Stephenson was able to open the door. When the door opened Sergeant Espinosa saw Suspect Ortega seated, surrounded by the trash and debris inside the room, which block their view of her hands at times. Due to Suspect Ortega's resistive behavior and their inability to see Suspect Ortega's hands, Sergeant Espinosa ordered Deputy to pull Suspect Ortega out of the room. grabbed Suspect Ortega by her right hand and attempted to pull her Deputy out of the room. Suspect Ortega pulled her arm and body away from Deputy and did not allow him to pull her out of the room. Sergeant Espinosa saw Deputy Stephenson had a can of OC spray in his hand. He ordered Deputy away from Suspect Ortega, to avoid contamination, then ordered Deputy Stephenson to spray Suspect Ortega with his OC spray. Deputy Stephenson sprayed Suspect Ortega once in the face, but the OC spray did not appear effective, as the OC spray landed on the side of her face. Sergeant Espinosa then ordered Deputy Stephenson to spray Suspect Ortega a second time with OC spray. The second application of OC spray appeared to effect Suspect Ortega, as the OC spray landed in her eyes. Deputies and Stephenson immediately pulled Suspect Ortega out of the room by her legs. and Stephenson struggled to control Suspect Ortega, Sergeant As Deputies Espinosa felt pain in his right ankle, and saw his shoelace was caught in a metal clasp on Suspect Ortega's boot, as she thrashed her legs. Sergeant Espinosa communicated to Deputy his shoelace was caught, and Deputy freed his shoelace from Suspect Ortega's boot. Sergeant Espinosa re-directed his attention toward the entirety of the situation and saw the suspect had rolled onto her stomach. Deputies and Stephenson had control of her upper body, Deputy controlled her legs and Deputy had applied the handcuffs to Suspect Ortega's wrists. Suspect Ortega stopped all physical resistance once she was handcuffed and the RIPP hobble was applied to her legs.

IAB Note:

Sergeant Espinosa had been out of work since October 29, 2021, two days after this incident, due to an injury that occurred when his shoelace was caught. An on-duty injury form was completed.

After the use of force, Sergeant Espinosa was informed that Suspect Ortega kicked Deputy Stephenson in the genitals, and Deputy Stephenson punched Suspect Ortega r in the face in response to being kicked.

After the use of force, Sergeant Espinosa saw and heard Witness yelling at them. Sergeant Espinosa did not believe Witness could have seen the use of force, based on the way the backdoor was angled, away from the pool house. Sergeant Espinosa believed he interviewed Witness after the force incident but did not recall her statement.

IAB Note: IAB investigators did not find an interview with Witness among the video footage on Evidence.com.

A debrief on the incident was conducted among the personnel present. The tactics and communication used, and the outcome of those tactics were debriefed. Deputies

Stephenson, and and reported the force they used and saw to Sergeant Espinosa during this time. Later the four deputies and Sergeant Espinosa reported the incident and the use of force to Watch Commander Lieutenant Melvin Joseph, #

NON-EMPLOYEE STATEMENTS

WITNESS STATEMENTS

On April 16, 2022, IAB Sergeant Adrian Guillen contacted Witness over the telephone. She was very uncooperative and stated she had witnessed the incident and called it a "traumatic event." She refused to provide any further statement and did not allow the IAB investigator to record the conversation.

There is no transcript available for this interview.

SUSPECT STATEMENTS

Suspect Angelina Ortega

On Thursday, October 28, 2021, at approximately 0138 hours IAB investigators Sergeants Adrian Guillen and Dennis Pogodayev, interviewed Suspect Angelina Ortega inside the Pico Rivera station jail. During this time, Suspect Ortega appeared under the

influence of a sedative, as she had just returned from being treated for her injuries at the hospital. She was unable to answer questions but described pain in her left eye and the back of her head.

On Thursday, June 30, 2022, at approximately 1317 hours, IAB investigators Sergeants Adrian Guillen and Walter Arcos responded to in the city of Whittier and contacted Suspect Ortega. The interview was conducted at her car which was parked in the driveway. The following is a summary of her interview.

On October 27, 2021, Suspect Ortega had gone to the backyard of to wash her clothes. While in the shower room, she heard deputy personnel call her out of the shower room. She exited the shower room and attempted to show the deputies a text she had sent to the "Ombudsman," and "The President" (of the United States) [Ortega 2nd Interview, pages 2-3].

IAB Note: Prior to going on record Suspect Ortega had specified she had contacted the President of the United States, however during this interview, she stated "The President."

Suspect Ortega changed her story and stated as soon as she stepped out of the room, she was instantly OC sprayed by a deputy then another deputy "jumped" on her. Suspect Ortega said the deputies' actions caused a "crack on my head," as she pointed to the bone above her left eye, a "knot" on the back of her head, and a broken left thumb. Subject Ortega said deputies removed her clothes and did not know why. She did not remember any other details of the incident [Ortega 2nd Interview, pages 3-4].

IAB Note: Suspect Ortega's medical records did not reflect an injury to her left thumb [Exhibit C], nor did she complain about pain or injury to her left thumb to IAB investigators during the first interview [Exhibit B, Video, Ortega Injuries].

IAB Note: BWC of this incident showed at 17:15 hours, during her search, deputies removed Subject Ortega's boots, multiple layers of pants, and removed items from her bra, due to concerns of a previously found concealed knife and no available female deputies to respond for the search.

Suspect Ortega denied she was under the influence of a controlled substance or alcohol but said she had ingested marijuana on the day of the force incident. She also denied being diagnosed with mental or psychological disorders.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

"A Tradition of Service Since 1850"

DATE:

October 4, 2022

FILE NO:

021-06168-1575-174

OFFICE OPRRESPONDENCE

FROM:

JASON P. WOLAK, COMMANDER PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

TO: JODI L. HUTAK, CAPTAIN

PICO RIVERA STATION

DIVISION

SUBJECT:

EXECUTIVE FORCE REVIEW COMMITTEE FINDINGS

Case Number:

FO2542325

Incident:

Category 3 Force

Incident Date:

October 27, 2021

Unit:

Pico Rivera Station

Suspect(s):

Angelina Ortega FH/080270

Involved Employees:

Deputy Deputy Michael Stephenson, #

Deputy Deputy

EFRC Date:

September 1, 2022

Statute Date:

October 26, 2022

The Executive Force Review Committee (EFRC) consisting of Commanders Valerie E. Silgero, Edward C. Ramirez, and Jason P. Wolak (Chair) met and reviewed the above case.

FINDINGS:

The EFRC determined the tactics and force used by deputy personnel were within Department policy.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Panel recommended that a station wide briefing occur regarding call out reasons and procedures for the Department's Mental Evaluation Team. The Panel also recommended Deputies Stephenson, and attend the following Department Training course:

1. Tactics and Survival Critical Incidents (High Risk)

South Patrol Division Commanders Yolanda Figueroa and Acting Commander Salvador Becerra concurred with the Panels findings and recommendations.

JPW:DJW:djw